

A4
contd.

transmit a first announcement including connection information for said content; and

transmit a second announcement including a content description for said content, said second announcement transmitted before any assignment of connection has been determined for said content.

26. (Amended) A processor-based system comprising:

a processor;

a transmitter coupled to said processor to transmit a first and second announcement and video content, said first announcement including connection information for said content and said second announcement including a content description for said content; and

storage coupled to said processor to store a template for said first announcement, said template formed before said connection information is available.

Remarks:

A. Objection to the Drawings

Enclosed herewith are proposed drawing corrections for FIG. 1, FIG. 2, and FIG. 3. It is respectfully submitted that these proposed drawing corrections and the amendments to the specification overcome the objection to the drawings.

B. Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Pending claims 10-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Claim 10 has a practical application as it produces a useful, concrete and tangible result. In this regard, the article of claim 10 produces a tangible result, namely the transmission of content and first and second announcements which include, respectively, connection information and content description. Thus claims 10-13 recite patentable subject matter.

(1)

c. Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Pending claims 1-2, 5-11, 13 and 26-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over EP 0828390A2 (Arsenault). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. With regard to amended claim 1, Arsenault does not teach a method in which a second announcement including a content description for content is transmitted "before any assignment of connection has been determined for said content." (2)

In this regard, Arsenault does not teach transmitting an announcement including content description until connection information is known. While such connection information may be modified by the system of Arsenault, nowhere does Arsenault teach that such content information may be transmitted prior to any assignment of connection. Accordingly, claim 1 and claims 2 and 5-9 depending therefrom are patentable over Arsenault. For similar reasons, amended claim 10 and claims 11 and 13 depending therefrom are also patentable over Arsenault. (3)

Regarding claim 26, nowhere does Arsenault disclose a processor-based system comprising storage "to store a template for said first announcement, said template formed before said connection information is available." Accordingly, claim 26 and claims 27 and 28 depending therefrom are patentable over Arsenault. (4)

D. Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Pending claims 3, 4 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Arsenault in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,686,954 (Yoshinobu). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Regarding claim 3 neither Arsenault nor Yoshinobu teach or suggest a method in which a second announcement including content description is transmitted before any assignment of

connection has been determined for the content (as discussed above regarding claim 1). For at least this reason claims 3, 4 and 12 are patentable over the proposed combination.

Dependent claim 4 is further patentable as neither Yoshinobu nor (as conceded by the Office Action) Arsenault teaches or suggests linking each of two levels of granularity to connection information for the granularity. In this regard Yoshinobu only teaches levels of granularity for content description, not connection information, and Arsenault does not teach levels of granularity whatsoever. Thus for this further reason, claim 4 patentably distinguishes over the proposed combination.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mark J. Rozman
Registration No. 42,117
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77024-1805
(512) 418-9944 [Phone]
(512) 418-0544 [Fax]



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APPENDIX I

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1. (Amended) A method comprising;
transmitting content;
transmitting a first announcement including connection
information for said content; and

transmitting a second announcement including a content
description for said content, said second announcement
transmitted before any assignment of connection has been
determined for said content.

10. (Amended) An article comprising a medium for storing
instructions that cause a processor-based system to:

transmit content;

transmit a first announcement including connection
information for said content; and

transmit a second announcement including a content
description for said content, said second announcement
transmitted before any assignment of connection has been
determined for said content.

26. (Amended) A processor-based system comprising:

a processor; [and]

a transmitter coupled to said processor to transmit a first
and second announcement and video content, said first
announcement including connection information for said content
and said second announcement including a content description for
said content; and

storage coupled to said processor to store a template for
said first announcement, said template formed before said
connection information is available.

APPENDIX II

Ancillary data may include graphics (e.g., web pages, multimedia information, or other digital data files), presentation layouts, electronic content guides and synchronization information. The transport operator system 14 provides an enhanced content delivery infrastructure that may include terrestrial, cable, satellite, or other types of transmission facilities (either analog or digital). The audio/video content and ancillary data may be transmitted over a transport medium 22, which may be a terrestrial, cable, satellite, or other type of link, to the receivers 16. The receivers 16 may include televisions, set-top boxes, personal computers, or other types of systems adapted to receive audio/video content and associated ancillary data. In certain embodiments, a server 18 may be coupled to the receivers 16 and the transport operator system 14.

As indicated in diamond 58, the software checks for the receipt of the associated connection information. When the associated connection information is received, the content description may be linked to the connection information using the identifiers as indicated in Figure 3 and in block 60 of Figure 5. In one embodiment of the present invention, a connection may then be made through the connection information to the source as indicated in block 62 of FIG. 5. As a result, the associated content may be obtained as indicated in block 64.